IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/716,474 Confirmation No. 6873

Applicant : T. KIKUCHI et al.

Filed: November 20, 2003

Title : A CROSS-CONTAMINATION PREVENTION SYSTEM AND

AUTOMATIC ANALYZER WHICH EQUIP FOR IT

TC/AU : 3689

Examiner : H.M. Riviere

Docket No. : KAS-195

Customer No.: 24956

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 August 20, 2009

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of April 23, 2009, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.

A **Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time** and the appropriate fee accompany this paper.